

Keep the Morse code requirement for general and extra class. Morse Code Communication skills and abilities need to be maintained as a fundamental communication mode for emergency preparedness. Morse code digital communication is the first and fundamental building block of digital communication techniques with all other mode being build upon this digital principle. Advantage digital mode improve but do not replace Morse Code. When all other techniques fail, manual digital communication will be the last to go. If our national infrastructure was destroyed by war or natural disaster, manual Morse code will be the last mode of communication to be lost. While modern techniques are more efficient, Morse code needs to be maintained as a performance platform. I think it is lazy, a mistake, and foolish to eliminate Morse code skill from radio communication. POWs in Vietnam were able to communicate through their prison cell by Morse code. Encourage use of Amateur radio communication by allowing for a no-code ticket, but reward extra frequency privileges to those whose maintain the national security communication skills and ability. Just because IARU dropped this global requirement does not mean it is in our countries best interest to drop it and it does not mean they made a good decision. Keep the Morse code requirement for general and extra class.

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